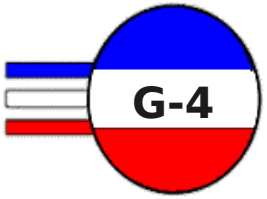
FORSCOM Pre-deployment Familiarization Brief on Mortuary Affairs and the Return of Soldiers' Personal Effects (PE)

Prepared by CMAOC
and FORSCOM G-4

In coordination with USCENTCOM,
USARCENT, 1st TSC, USF-I and CJTF-82

MA officials



BACKGROUND

- The failure to quickly and accurately return personal effects (PE) to wounded soldiers and to the families of deceased soldiers has become a major item of command interest.

- Leaders do not plan for soldiers to die or become wounded. However when they do, leaders must insure all Soldiers' PE are treated with the same level of care and respect that is given to Soldier's Human Remains (HR).

The Army Family Action Plan (AFAP), FORSCOM G-4 AAR

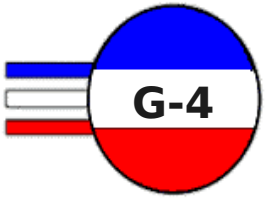
- Soldier Family Support Groups requested **Mandated** pre-deployment training of policies and procedures with respect to the **PE/OCIE** of **medically evacuated Soldiers** during recent AFAP working group conferences.

PURPOSE

This briefing was designed to present essential theater Mortuary Affairs (MA) information before deployment. The focus is on the return of the Personal Effects (PE) of KIA, MIA, and WIA Service members. It will also give an overview of the return of Human Remains (HR);

- **Provides critical information on MA Collection Points (MACPs) and where to find MA experts that support units while in Theater**

- **What to do in the event of a unit death or injury;**
  - **Processing HR and PE**
  - **Processing PE only for medically evacuated Soldiers**



Areas of Interest

- Key MA Program Acronyms
- Mortuary Affairs (MA) References
- Soldier Killed / MIA / WIA – Now What?
- Personal Effects
- MACP functions
- Joint Mortuary Affairs Program Flow
- Theater Movement
- Current Issues
- Leader Responsibilities
- MA POCs

Key MA Acronyms

- **CMAOC** – Casualty & Mortuary Affairs Operations Center
- **HR** – Human Remains
- **IO** – Inventory Official
- **JPED** – Joint Personal Effects Depot (CONUS-APG, MD)
- **JSO** – Joint Services Office
- **JMAC** – Joint Mortuary Affairs Center
- **MACP** – Mortuary Affairs Collection Point
- **MTF** – Military Treatment Facility
- **PE** – Personal Effects
- **PERE** – Person Eligible to Receive Effects
- **PADD** – Person Authorized to Direct Disposition – DD 93
- **SCMO** – Summary Court Martial Officer
- **TMAO** – Theater Mortuary Affairs Officer
- **TMAEA** – Theater Mortuary Affairs Executive Agent
- **TMEP** – Theater Mortuary Evacuation Point

MA References

Theater specific references:

ALARACT 139 / 2006 POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE HANDLING OF PERSONAL EFFECTS (PE) AND GOVERNMENT PROPERTY, DTG 210236Z JUL 06.

ALARACT 161 / 2007 REMOVAL OF AMMUNITION AND EXPLOSIVES BY THEATER SUMMARY COURT MARTIAL OFFICERS (SCMO) 182007Z JUL 07

ALARACT 224 / 2007 REVISED POLICIES FOR CERTIFYING AND REPORTING THEATER SUMMARY COURT MARTIAL OFFICERS (SCMO) IN THE CENTCOM AOR 151802Z OCT 07

ALARACT 235 / 2007 SUMMARY COURT MARTIAL OFFICER (SCMO) CHECKLIST FOR CURRENT CENTCOM THEATER USE ONLY 191829Z OCT 07

ALARACT 006 / 2009 (CORRECTED COPY) POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE HANDLING OF PERSONAL EFFECTS FOR MEDICALLY EVACUATED SOLDIERS 090012Z JAN 09

Home Station references:

- **Joint Pub 4-06, Mortuary Affairs in Joint Operations**
- **AR 600-8-1, Army Casualty Program**
- **AR 638-2, Disposition of Remains and Personal Effects**
- **DA PAM 638-2, Procedures for Remains and Personal Effects**
- **CCR 638-1, (CENTCOM REG on Mortuary Affairs)**

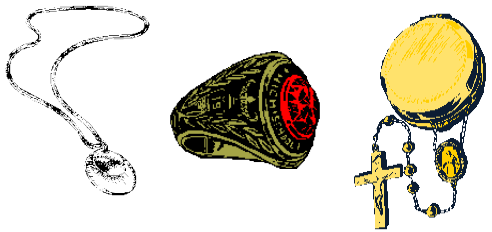
Soldier Killed / MIA / WIA
Now What?

- **Collect all PE associated with the SM at the incident site and ensure that PE stays with the remains**
- **Person who can visually identify HR should escort them to a MACP**
- **Ensure HR moved to MACP / MTF**
- **Report the Battlefield Loss to your chain of command**
- **Secure ALL other PE in unit area(s) until SCMO / Inventory Official (IO) arrives**

Personal Effects

- ARE ALL privately-owned, moveable, personal property of an individual.
- PE include those personal items that are normally with a person such as a watch, rings, jewelry, a wallet containing personal papers and pictures, money, etc…
- PE also includes other items owned at death, missing status or at time of injury such as personal clothing, personally owned military clothing, stereos, TVs and gaming devices.
- DO NOT INCLUDE Government property such as weapons, body armor, masks and other type property issued by the Government. (Note: Helmet and All IBA must stay with a deceased Soldier for evaluation.)
- **While in the USCENTCOM Theater, OCIE will be processed as PE because it has been found that some OCIE items have been privately purchased. (The JPED, CIF and unit will separate OCIE and clear hand receipts in CONUS.)**

PERSONAL EFFECTS ON KIA REMAINS ARE INVENTORIED, BAGGED, SECURED AND EVACUATED WITH REMAINS



PERSONAL EFFECTS OF WIA/KIA SOLDIERS, LOCATED AT THE UNIT'S BASE CAMP MUST BE INVENTORIED AND SHIPPED

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Personal Effects

- Ensure Personal Effects are safeguarded until SCMO / Inventory Official is appointed and begins inventory
- PE is inventoried and packed per ALARACT 235 / 2007
- PE is secured and escorted by the SCMO / IO to closest MACP
  - SCMO should inform the MACP prior to arrival
- PE should be secured in a hard plastic footlocker “gorilla box” (or similar) for transportation to the MACP
- PE tracked from MACP to JPED to PERE / WIA by MA personnel and CMAOC
- For all Killed, MIA, and Medically Evacuated WIA, CMAOC established call centers for PE (see HRC website) Central POC for PE follow up information;
  https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/active/tagd/cmaoc/cmaoc.htm
- In theater, only use the ALARACT messages. Home Station uses the AR.

Processing Personal Effects

- Find out who your **Division Mortuary Affairs NCOIC/OIC** is and where they're located
- Using the current **SCMO / IO Checklist**, conduct the inventory and **deliver PE** to the closest **MACP**
- **Army Mortuary Affairs Collection Points (MACPs):**

OIF **Tallil** **Biap** **Balad** **Al Asad** **Mosul**

OEF **Bagram** **Kandahar**

- If you have **questions**, start with your **Bn/Bde S-1 (NCO)** and work up to the Division Mortuary Affairs NCOIC/OIC
- **SCMOs / IOs have 12 hours to complete inventories, recommend using a supply representative to assist**

MA Collection Points

PERSONNEL
4-6
92Ms

FUNCTIONS:

- **Provide Dignity, Reverence, and Respect**
- Observe forensic protocols
- **Initiate continual chain of custody for personal effects on remains**
- Establish Tentative ID (name Association)
- Preserve remains in viewable condition
- **Evacuate remains to Dover AFB**

These are your area experts on Personal Effects procedures – Talk to them!

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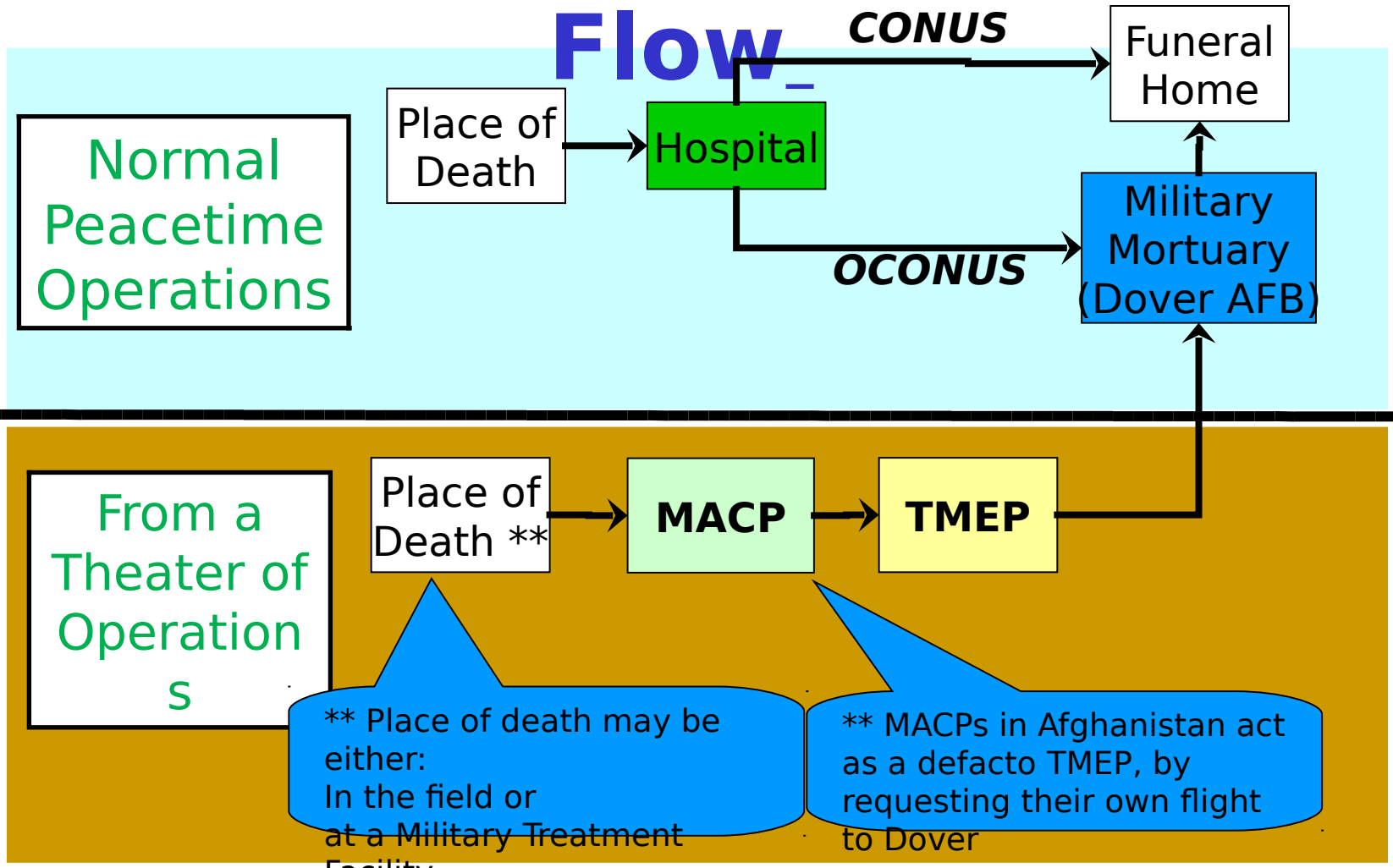
Military Personnel Human Remains Flow



Theater Movement

Overview

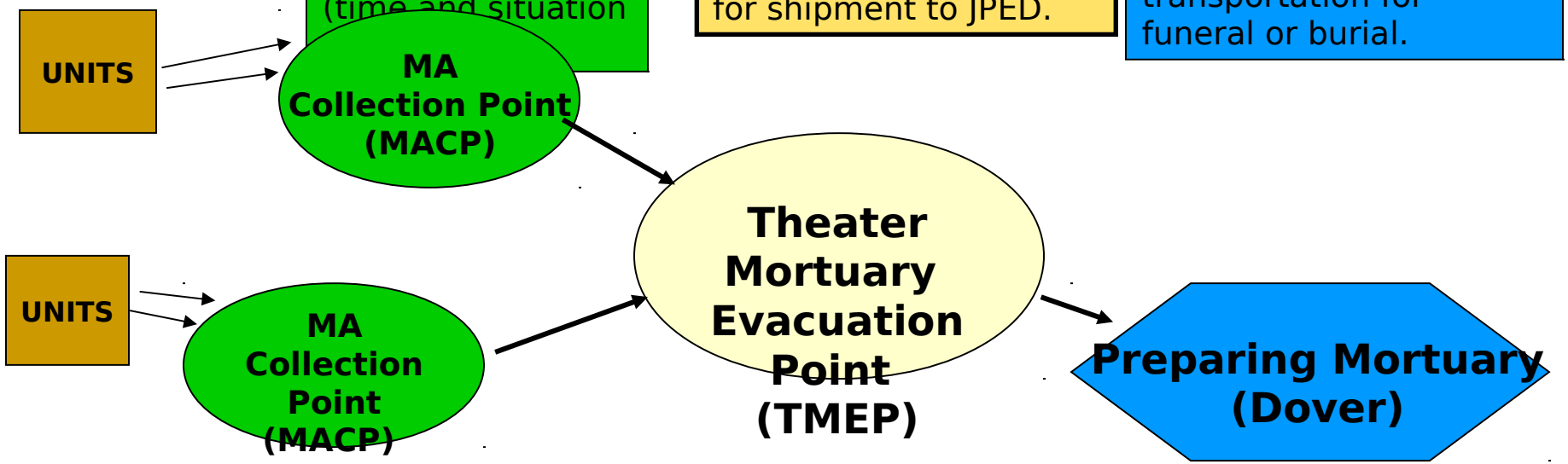
1. Units: Evacuate HR immediately and PE when completed to MACP.

2. Collection Points: MA Teams receive remains, Inventory associated PE on the HR, complete tentative identification and processing forms (time and situation

3. TMEP: MA Personnel receive and prepare remains for evacuation to preparing mortuary. Personnel perform quality assurance

PE sent to USAF airfield for shipment to JPED.

4. Preparing Mortuary: Complete processing to include: Positive Identification, autopsy, preparation, and transportation for funeral or burial.



Current Issues

- **Interceptor Body Armor (IBA) not being transported w/ remains**
  - **IOTV/OTV, E-SAPI, E-SBI, DAPs & ACH not arriving at MACP with all KIA**
  - **All OCIE will accompany PE to JPED except IBA (IBA stays with KIA remains)**
  - **Command emphasis required on maintaining a cadre of trained SCMOs**
  - **SCMO / IO checklist available on the Mortuary Affairs Center web site; (http://www.quartermaster.army.mil/mac/)**
- **Preservation of Human Remains**
  - **Evacuate remains the quickest way possible to the MACP**
  - **If possible, Refrigerate remains until evacuation (coordinate with unit 92Ms)**
  - **Departure-Ramp Ceremonies in AOR are unauthorized and can delay the movement of HR**
  - **Human remains are cared for by Mortuary Affairs personnel. Escorts from theater to Dover AFB are unauthorized**
- **Ensure no one holds on to any PE for sentimental reasons or to personally deliver to Family**
- **SCMO / IO must include: Appointment Orders, Memo of No Un-Exploded Ordnance (UXO), Certificate of Destruction, Memo of Delay, DD Form 1076, Custom waiver form, and Receipt Letter from MACP.**

Leader Responsibilities

- **Know the status of your Soldiers!**
  - **When in a Military Treatment Facility –**
    - **Will they be Returned to Duty ?**
    - **If MEDEVAC'd, then Process Soldier's PE!**
    - **MACP personnel will advise you!**
- **Do NOT store Soldier PE in CONEXs**
  - **Immediately send individual Soldier PE to MACP**
  - **Use SCMO / Inventory Official checklist**
- **Problem Areas**
  - **PE of Soldiers who are MEDEVAC'd for all battle related injuries And accidents will be routed through the nearest MACP.**
  - **PE for Non-injured MEDVAC'd soldiers should be routed through unit supply (e.g. Cancer, Dental , Pregnancy)**

Points of Contact

The primary POC for PE Issues in CONUS is the Army Casualty and Mortuary Affairs Operations Center (CMAOC), PE Section, DSN 221-5637, COMM (703) 325-5637, fax – 9058; Email address: ArmyPEops@conus.army.mil

Website: https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/active/tagd/cmaoc/cmaoc.htm

Additional POCs and SMEs for this subject include:

MAJ Candy Campbell, **USF-I MA Officer**, DSN: 318-485-5471/SVOIP 243-4330, NIPR: candy.campbell@iraq.centcom.mil

MAJ Edwin Reyes, **Theater MA Officer 1ST TSC**, DSN: 318-430-5457/ Cell: 318-980-4692, edwin.reyes@kuwait.swa.army.mil
TMAO DSN: DSN 318-430-5223/5656 / Cell: 318-984- 5962, TMAO@kuwait.swa.army.mil

MAJ Vonbartheld, **135th ESC MA OIC**, RC-South & West, DSN: 318-841-1228 (2017), adam.vonbartheld@afghan.swa.army.mil

SFC Lambertus, **CJTF-82 MA NCOIC**, RC-East & North, DSN: 318-431-2934 DSN Cell: 7811 edgar.a.lambertus@afghan.swa.army.mil

1SG Robert Bryson, **USARCENT G-4 TMAEA**, DSN 312-367-4295, robert.bryson1@arcent.army.mil

LTC William Koehler, **FORSCOM G-4**, 404-464-5642, DSN: 312-367-5642, Bill.Koehler@conus.army.mil

Mr. Gary Garlow, **FORSCOM G-1**, 404-464-7398, DSN: 312-367-7398, gary.garlow@us.army.mil